

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

Meeting Date: May 18, 2005

Division: BOCC1

Bulk Item: Yes X No     

Department: BOCC1

Staff Contact Person: Jana Johnson-Willi

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**AGENDA ITEM WORDING:** Resolution of the Board of County Commissioners, Monroe County, Florida in recognition of the late Mario Sanchez.

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**ITEM BACKGROUND:**

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**PREVIOUS RELEVANT BOCC ACTION:**

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**CONTRACT/AGREEMENT CHANGES:**

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**STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:**

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**TOTAL COST:** N/A

**BUDGETED:** Yes      No     

**COST TO COUNTY:**                     

**SOURCE OF FUNDS:**                     

**REVENUE PRODUCING:** Yes      No      **AMOUNT PER MONTH**      **Year**     

**APPROVED BY:** County Atty      OMB/Purchasing      Risk Management     

**DIVISION DIRECTOR APPROVAL:** *Dixie M. Spehar*  
Dixie M. Spehar, Mayor

**DOCUMENTATION:** Included      Not Required     

**DISPOSITION:**                                     

**AGENDA ITEM #**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS OF MONROE COUNTY IN  
RECOGNITION OF THE LATE MARIO SANCHEZ**

**WHEREAS**, Mario Sanchez, a Key West folk artist and national treasure, well known for his colorful and intricate woodcarvings depicting Key West street scenes, passed away on April 21, 2005; and

**WHEREAS**, Mario Sanchez began his career in art by selling his artwork in barber shops, eventually adopted the shade of a downtown sapodilla tree as his studio, and often purloined implements from his wife Rosa's kitchen to execute his works; and

**WHEREAS**, Mario Sanchez preserved his memories of a culturally diverse community by peopling his street scenes with cigar rollers, street vendors, fishermen, and a variety of other people common to Key West, including Cuban, Afro-Cuban, Bahamian, Afro-Bahamian, Chinese, Italian and Jewish immigrants, often with a humorous undertone; and

**WHEREAS**, Mario Sanchez received a Florida Folk Heritage Award in 1991, in 1996 was acclaimed by the national magazine *Folk Art* as the most important Cuban-American Folk Artist of the Twentieth Century, was collected by top museums around the country, was featured in Cary Grant's films, and now has one of the largest collections of his work ever compiled displayed by the Key West Museum of Art and History at the Custom House; and

**WHEREAS**, Mario Sanchez was born in 1908, on the second floor of his family's bodega, a grocery store, at the corner of Duval and Louisa Streets, spent the early years of his marriage to Rosa in Tampa, and returned with his family to Key West in 1930, from which time he spent well over half a century memorializing Key West's history in his intaglios or wood carvings; now therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF  
MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA:**

**Section 1:** Hereby adopts this Resolution as an expression to the family of their deepest sympathy in the passing of the late Mario Sanchez.

**Section 2:** Hereby directs the Clerk to forward to the family of Mario Sanchez a copy of this Resolution expressing the Board's sorrow.

Mario Sanchez



**Section 2:** Hereby directs the Clerk to forward to the family of Mario Sanchez a copy of this Resolution expressing the Board's sorrow.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of County Commissioners of Monroe County, Florida, at a meeting of said Board held on the 18th day of May, A.D., 2005.

Mayor Dixie M. Spehar \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Pro Tem Charles "Sonny" McCoy \_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner George Neugent \_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner David P. Rice \_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner Murray E. Nelson \_\_\_\_\_

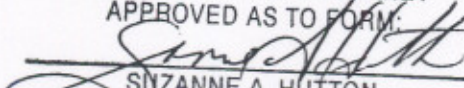
(SEAL)  
COMMISSIONERS  
Attest: DANNY L. KOLHAGE, Clerk

BOARD OF COUNTY  
OF MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA

By \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_

MONROE COUNTY ATTORNEY  
APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
SUZANNE A. HUTTON  
ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY  
Date 5/18/05

Mario Sanchez